

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are pending. Claims 1-5 and 24-27 stand rejected. Claims 6-23 and 28-30 have been withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 24 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. Applicants submit that the amendments do not add new matter.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-5 and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,473,878, of Zolnowsky et al. ("Zolnowsky").

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 24 to particularly point out a subject matter that applicants regard as the invention. Applicants claim obtaining information from a memory system that indicates a data mask mapping scheme between data masks and data to be used in a memory module in the memory system, and determining the data mask mapping scheme between the data masks and the data based on such information.

Amended claim 1 reads as follows:

A method, comprising:
obtaining, from within a memory system, information to indicate a data mask mapping scheme between data masks and data to be used in a memory module in the memory system; and
determining the data mask mapping scheme between the data masks and the data based on the information.

(Amended claim 1) (emphasis added)

Zolnowsky, in contrast, discloses mapping logical addresses of executive and user programs to respective physical addresses in a system memory. The selection of logical

addresses to be mapped to respective physical addresses is made using a logical address mask.

Zolnowsky discloses that

In general, the executive program must construct one or more segment descriptors which map the logical address range of the executive program itself and each of the user programs scheduled to be executed, into appropriately sized segments of the physical address range of the memory 14.

(Zolnowsky, col.2, line 65 to col.3 line 2) (emphasis added)

More specifically, Zolnowsky discloses

In the illustrated form, each segment descriptor also includes a logical address mask portion which implicitly defines the range of logical addresses to be mapped by this descriptor by specifying which of the bits of the logical address are to be masked prior to comparison to the logical base address. In this form, the physical base address portion effectively defines the physical address into which the bits of the logical address masked by the logical address mask are to be inserted to derive the physical address to be provided to the memory 14.

(“Zolnowsky”, col. 3 line 29-39) (emphases added)

Thus, Zolnowsky, in contrast, discloses a completely different mapping between logical addresses of the programs and physical addresses in a memory, wherein a mask simply defines a range of logical addresses to be mapped into the physical addresses. Zolnowsky fails to disclose, teach, or suggest mapping between data masks and data. Therefore, Zolnowsky fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of amended claim 1 of obtaining from a memory system the information, which indicates data mask mapping scheme between data masks and data to be used in a memory module in the memory system, and determining the data mask mapping scheme between the data masks and the data based on such information, as recited in claim 1.

Because Zolnowsky does not set forth all the limitations of amended claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Zolnowsky under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

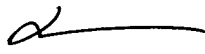
Because amended independent claim 24 contains at least the same limitations as the amended claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 24 is likewise not anticipated by Zolnowsky under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Given that claims 2-5 and 25-27 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended independent claims 1 and 24 respectively, and add additional limitations, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-5 and 25-27 are likewise not anticipated by Zolnowsky under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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